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Overview

Barrow Neurological Institute, located on the campus of St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, is recognized by US News and World Report for the quality of its neurological and neurosurgical care, attracts patients, medical students and physicians from around the globe. Under the leadership of Medical Director Dr. Robert Spetzler, Barrow continues to unlock the mysteries of the brain and spine through innovative clinical care, intensive post-graduate medical education, comprehensive nurse extern and residency programs, and pioneering research.

The Institute is comprised of nine divisions: Neurosurgery, Neurology, Neuroradiology, Pediatric Neurosciences, Research, Anesthesia, Neuropathology, Neuroanesthesia, and Neuropsychology. Centers of excellence include:

- 1) Skullbase and Cerebrovascular Surgery
- 2) Neuroendocrine Surgery
- 3) Functional and Stereotactic Neurosurgery
- 4) Pediatric Neurosurgery
- 5) Spine Center
- 6) Neuroendovascular Surgery
- 7) Muhammad Ali Parkinson Research Center
- 8) Epilepsy Center, Pediatric Neurology
- 9) Neuromuscular Research Center including the MDA/ALS Center
- 10) Neurorehabilitation
- 11) Stroke Center

Barrow admits more than 8,000 patients each year, representing a quarter of St. Joe's total admissions. Included in this figure are 3,900 neurosurgeries, performed in 8 dedicated neuro operating rooms, making it the busiest neurosurgery program in the country. Barrow currently has 22 dedicated neuro ICU beds (including 6 for stroke), 34 acute neuro beds (including a 10 bed spine unit), a 5 bed epilepsy monitoring unit, 15 intermediate care beds and a 38 bed neuro-rehabilitation inpatient facility.

Barrow provides training for 17 neurosurgery and 10 neurology residents in post-doctoral programs, as well as nursing educational clinical experiences for an average of 75 nursing students per year. In addition, fellowship training is provided for 5 neurosurgeons in three subspecialties and 6 neurologists in 4 subspecialties. We host dozens of visiting physicians from all over the globe each year who are interested in learning the latest neurosurgical techniques. Hospital administrators and physician leaders regularly visit Barrow to learn how to set up a world-class neuroscience center. Seven major regional conferences are hosted at Barrow each year in addition to the international Barrow Neurosurgery, Neurology and Neuroimaging Symposia, covering topics such as balance, stroke, movement disorders, pituitary disorders, pediatric neurology and neurosurgery and cognitive disorders. The Neuroscience Publications office publishes the Barrow Quarterly, a magazine featuring the clinical publications authored by Barrow faculty members. That office also helps physicians and scientists at Barrow produce over 200 peer-reviewed journal articles, and dozens of books and chapters for medical texts used all over the world.

Research advances in neuroradiology, hydrocephalus management, neuro-oncology, epilepsy, and endovascular, cerebrovascular and spinal biomechanics have brought international recognition to Barrow's physicians and scientists. Barrow has more than 20 scientists dedicated to basic research in the fields of molecular neurobiology, genetics, neurochemistry, neuropsychology, motor systems, neuro-oncology, epilepsy and sensory systems. Researchers at the Institute have made major breakthroughs in genetic mapping, uncovering the genetic source codes for several neurological disorders. In addition to the federal and state grants received by Barrow scientists, the Institute invests over \$12M each year to support neuroscience research. The Barrow Neurological Foundation provides funding support endowments to Barrow clinician/scientists and research programs to further the goal of "raising the bar of knowledge in the neurosciences." Linda Hunt, CEO, recently pledged support to the state's bid to bring the International Genomics Consortium to Arizona by making available space on Barrow's campus to support the IGC start up efforts.

Barrow's faculty has come from the leading residency and fellowship programs in the country. It is understandable why so many of our physicians have been recognized as leaders in their specific disciplines. Among the newest faculty members to join Barrow are Drs. Timothy L. Vollmer and David M. Treiman. Dr. Vollmer moved from Yale to take the position as chairman of the neurology division at Barrow. He is also a neuro-immunologist and will be leading the effort at Barrow to establish an MS Center as well as open a number of clinical and basic research studies in the field to find better ways to treat this debilitating disease and eventually uncover the keys to a cure. Dr. Treiman heads Barrow's Epilepsy Center and is internationally known for his work in status epilepticus. He has just opened an epilepsy research lab to understand the root causes and mechanisms for controlling seizure disorders. Dr. Volker Sonntag, Vice Chairman of the Institute and Chief of Spine Surgery at Barrow was recently acknowledged for his contributions to the field of neurosurgery with one of the most coveted awards given to neurosurgeons as Honored Guest of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons. Dr Spetzler received the award in 1994.